

illegal hunting of the African elephant in Zimbabwe has virtually stopped.

One only has to look at the number of elephants thriving in Zimbabwe today to know that this program works. From 1980, the elephant population in Zimbabwe has increased from 45,000 to 66,000. And it continues to grow at an estimated rate of 3,000 per year. Contrast this with Kenya, where alternative policies have resulted in a massive drop in the elephant population, falling from 100,000 in 1970 to 26,000 today.

The CAMPFIRE Program also helps to bring the poorest of the poor much-needed capital to develop their village resources. The money earned through CAMPFIRE enables these villages to erect schools, dig clean-water wells, and develop training programs. It is a model for sustainable economic development and environmental conservation. I urge my colleagues to support this program. I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on the Fox amendment.

TRIBUTE TO INDIA

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 4, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the nation of India on the golden anniversary of her independence. At the stroke of midnight on August 15, 1947, Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru awoke India to life and freedom after a long and valiant struggle against colonialism and oppression. Fifty years hence India stands as a triumphant example to the world as the world's most populous democracy of 950 million people.

Throughout this period of uninterrupted democratic self-rule India has maintained a multi-party system, a free press and an independent judiciary that guarantees human rights and the rule of law. In 1996 half a billion Indians reaffirmed their commitment to democratic governance in the most participated free elections in world history.

To the people of India, to all those who compose the multi-ethnic, multi-linguistic and multireligious tapestry that is India, and to all the Indo-Americans gathered in my home State of California and across America to commemorate this great anniversary I extend to you my congratulations.

We here in the United States share a special kinship with India. We too gained our independence from British colonialism. Our Presidents Woodrow Wilson and Franklin D. Roosevelt championed Indian independence. We have also learned much from India; in our own struggle for civil rights, Martin Luther King Jr. was inspired by and used the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi as a model of civil disobedience and nonviolent resistance.

Today as the two greatest democracies in the world, India and the United States are bound by common democratic values and have a strong interest in continuing to build mutually beneficial relations. As a member of the International Relations Committee of the United States House of Representatives, I will continue my strong advocacy of humanitarian and development assistance to India. I look forward to working toward the goal of improving cooperation between our two countries in

the areas of trade, diplomacy, and security from which we both have much to gain.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to take this opportunity to recognize our debt of gratitude to the Indo-Americans who have made such profound contributions to American society. Indo-Americans represent a growing political force in southern California and across the United States. I applaud the community's efforts to embrace the mainstream of the American political process, while keeping alive here in the United States the culture of India. America has been enriched by the hard work, determination, educational achievement and cultural contribution of the Indo-American community.

I am proud to join the Indo-American community in celebrating 50 years of Indian independence and democratic self-rule and in looking forward to the next half century and beyond.

HONORING HEAR O' ISRAEL OF HOUSTON, TX

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 4, 1997

Mr. BENTSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a valued organization within the Houston community, Hear O' Israel, which is sponsoring its annual National Mercy, Love, and Compassion Month awareness project this month in Houston. Hear O' Israel works to make a difference in the lives of the disabled, battered and abused women, the elderly, and young people across Houston. They work to give these men and women a stronger sense of self-worth and instill in them the need to treat others with compassion and respect. The following resolution approved by the Houston city council demonstrates the high regard for Hear O' Israel in our community.

NATIONAL MERCY, LOVE, AND COMPASSION MONTH

Hear O' Israel International, Inc., a non-profit, non-denominational organization, will sponsor its annual National Mercy, Love, and Compassion Month awareness project during the month of September 1997. The project is designed to enhance awareness of the plight of the physically challenged, the elderly, fatherless and/or abused children, and widows. Culminating with Hear O' Israel International's annual Feast of Joy Festival on October 4, 1997, the project will encourage individuals and organizations to demonstrate mercy and compassion, and work to fulfill the special requirements of those in need.

The Mayor and the City Council of the City of Houston do hereby salute Hear O' Israel International for its efforts to improve and enhance the quality of life for the physically challenged, the elderly, fatherless and/or abused children, and widows, and extend best wishes for a successful and rewarding National Mercy, Love, and Compassion Month.

Approved by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Houston this 7th day of August, 1997, A.D.

WATER-RELATED TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT OF 1997

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 4, 1997

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the "Water-Related Technical Corrections Act of 1997." This bill is a non-controversial bill designed to correct and update certain provisions of law that affect the Bureau of Reclamation, an agency of the Department of the Interior.

Perhaps the most substantive policy issue addressed in the bill is the section to amend the Warren Act of 1911. The 1911 Act was passed at a time when Bureau of Reclamation facilities were all single-purpose projects for the delivery of irrigation water. Therefore, the Warren Act authorized moving water surplus to the project's needs and nonproject water through Reclamation facilities only for irrigation purposes.

Much has happened in the arid West since 1911. In 1939, Congress enacted legislation to authorize multi-purpose Bureau of Reclamation projects. Today, many Reclamation projects in the West do serve many purposes, including delivery of irrigation and municipal water supplies, hydroelectric power generation, fish and wildlife purposes, recreation and flood control. The Warren Act needs to be updated to enable surplus and nonproject water to be moved through federal facilities for various beneficial purposes.

As water supplies in the West tighten, efficient water management is needed. An updated Warren Act can help water managers achieve that goal. In fact, legislation to enable surplus and nonproject water to be moved through Reclamation facilities has already been enacted for certain Reclamation projects in the West, including most projects in California and the Central Utah Project. There are pending requests before the Subcommittee on Water and Power to make this modification for two additional projects. The time has come to deal with this subject in a comprehensive manner, and not continue piece-meal efforts to provide water users, including urban water districts, with the tools they need for effective water management.

I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this provision, and the other provisions to clarify provisions of Reclamation law.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEBORAH PRYCE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 4, 1997

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, due to a very important family commitment, on Thursday, September 4, 1997, I sought, and was granted, an official leave of absence from the majority leader. Because of my absence, I was unable to cast recorded votes on the below-indicated amendments and/or bills. However, if I were present, I would have voted in the following manner:

H.R. 2159, FISCAL YEAR 1998 FOREIGN OPERATIONS APPROPRIATIONS

1. Burton Amendment (No. 38): Nay.